

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent Application No. 10/530,171

Applicant: Hirakawa et al.

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Examiner: Lynn Ann Bristol

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Customer No.: 23460

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated January 11, 2007, please consider the following remarks.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.